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1. [Currently Amended] A safety grip for engaging a long barreled weapon ~~or the like~~ ^{by examiner's andt.} in a vertical attitude with barrel facing upwardly comprising a mounting bracket, said mounting bracket having a mounting plate and a support plate, said support plate having a recess therein, and said recess being open at one end thereof, said support plate being substantially horizontal when mounted as intended;

a nest pad, said nest pad being supported on said support plate, an opening in said nest pad, said opening being aligned with said recess in said support plate;

a ring disposed on said nest pad about said opening;

a slit in said nest pad, said slit running from an edge of said nest pad to said opening to thereby provide access to said opening through said slit.

^{by examiner's andt.}
2. [Currently Amended] The safety grip of Claim 1, ~~comprising a ring,~~ said ring ~~disposed~~ being formed on said nest pad about said opening, and a slit in said ring coincident with said slit in said nest pad for receiving the barrel of a weapon to be secured in said safety grip within said ring.

3 3. [Currently Amended] The safety grip of Claim 1, wherein said nest pad is of a pliable material, said material about said opening, and above said recess in said support plate adapted to frictionally engage the barrel of the weapon frictionally to secure the same in said safety grip.

4. Cancel Claim 4.

4 5. [Original] The safety grip of Claim 1, wherein said opening comprises a pair of intersecting circular openings.

5 6. [Original] The safety grip of Claim 1, wherein said nest pad is provided with at least one cut intersecting said opening therein to assist in accommodating various sized gun barrels.

7. Cancel Claim 7.

6 8. [Original] The safety grip of Claim ⁵~~6~~, wherein several cuts are provided in said nest pad about the circumference of said opening.

~~7~~ 9. [Currently Amended] The safety grip of Claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1, wherein said nest pad is of a pliable material and said ring is also made of pliable material.

~~8~~ 10. [Currently Amended] The safety grip of Claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1, wherein said opening comprises a pair of intersecting circular openings.

~~9~~ 11. [Original] The safety grip of Claim 2, wherein said nest pad is provided with at least one cut intersecting said opening therein to assist in accommodating various sized gun barrels.

~~10~~ 12. [Currently Amended] The safety grip of Claim ~~5~~ ⁴, wherein several cuts are provided in said nest pad and said ring about the circumference of said opening.